

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 84-42

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

McGraw-Hill, Incorporated  
Novato, Marin County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter called Board) finds that:

1. McGraw-Hill, Incorporated (hereinafter discharger) operates a book publishing facility located at 8171 Redwood Highway, Novato, Marin County. Sewage generated at the facility is treated by an aerobic package treatment plant and disposed by evaporation in two wastewater ponds, located within 200 feet of U. S. Highway 101 (see Attachment A). The ponds are located near drainage swales which discharge into as tributary of Black John Slough, tributary to Petaluma River, waters of the State.
2. The Discharger presently collects, treats, and stores for evaporation an average of 1700 gallons per day (gpd) of domestic sewage from a daytime staff of 120 employees.
3. The Board adopted Resolution No. 610, prescribing waste discharge requirements for McGraw-Hill, Inc., on November 19, 1964. These requirements prohibit the discharge of waste from the ponds, and take note of the discharger's stated intent to haul waste from the ponds in the event of threatened overflow.
4. Numerous violations of Regional Board Resolution 610 occurred early in the 1981-82 rainy season. These violations resulted and threatened to further result in discharges of waste to waters of the State.
5. The Board adopted Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 82-006, requiring cleanup and abatement of illegal discharge, on October 21, 1982. This required immediate abatement of overflow discharge from the evaporation ponds, and submittal of written reports assuring immediate and long-term schedule of compliance with waste discharge requirements in Resolution 610.
6. The discharger:
  - (a) Submitted on October 28, 1982 a water balance calculation for the wastewater disposal ponds.
  - (b) Submitted on April 14, 1983 a report of exploratory work which located subsurface drain water flowing into the ponds.
  - (c) Constructed facilities and made repairs to correct the inflow and achieve compliance.

- (d) Abated the discharge of waste from the evaporation ponds. As of May 7, 1984 the system has been in compliance for the last 12 months.
7. The discharger is complying with waste discharge requirements contained in Resolution 610 and Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 82-006.
  8. The waste treatment facility is located in an area where shallow aquifers have been intruded by sea-water. The principal source of water supply is from deep wells and little or no groundwater is pumped from shallow wells. The method of waste disposal does not threaten any usable groundwater supply in the vicinity.
  9. The Board adopted a Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the San Francisco Bay Region on July 21, 1983. Basin Plan contains water quality objectives for Petaluma River.
  10. The beneficial uses of the Petaluma River are:
    - a. Navigation
    - b. Water contact recreation
    - c. Non-contact water recreation
    - d. Warm freshwater habitat
    - e. Cold freshwater habitat
    - f. Wildlife habitat
    - g. Preservation of rare and endangered species
    - h. Fish migration
    - i. Fish spawning
  11. This project involves the continued operation of a privately-owned sewage treatment and disposal facility. Pursuant in Section 15101 of the California Administrative Code, the proposed use is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
  12. The Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity for a public hearing and an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
  13. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that McGraw-Hill Incorporated, Novato, pursuant to the provisions of Division 7 of the California Water Code, and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. Prohibitions

1. Overflow from the evaporation ponds is prohibited. There shall be no bypass or overflow of waste to waters of the State from the collection, treatment, or pond system.

2. Discharge of wastewater to any land other than the evaporation ponds is prohibited.
3. Wastewater ponding which could provide a breeding area for mosquitoes is prohibited.
4. The average wastewater flow to the ponds shall not exceed the original design capacity of 2500 gpd (monthly average).

B. Discharge Specifications

1. Neither the treatment nor disposal of wastes shall create a nuisance or pollution as defined in the California Water Code.
2. The discharge of waste shall not degrade the quality of any ground water suitable for domestic use or cause an increase in any quality parameter that would make ground water unsuitable for irrigation use.
3. The discharge of waste shall not cause seepage to be present any place outside the evaporation ponds.
4. This Order does not allow for spray disposal or other wastewater reclamation.
5. The evaporation ponds shall be adequately protected from erosion, washout and flooding from a rainfall event having a predicted frequency of once in 100 years.
6. To prevent threat of overflows, a minimum freeboard of 2 feet shall be maintained in each evaporation pond at all times.
7. The public shall be effectively excluded and notified of the presence of wastewater in the evaporation ponds.
8. The discharger shall maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible any facility or control system installed by the discharger to achieve compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

C. Provisions

1. The requirements prescribed by this Order supersede the requirements prescribed by Resolution No. 610 adopted by the Board on November 19, 1964. Resolution 610 is hereby rescinded.
2. By October 1 of each year, the dischargers shall submit a report to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer containing the depth of freeboard in each pond, and an assessment of the ability of the ponds to maintain the minimum freeboard in the ponds throughout the wet season with anticipated rains and waste inflow.

3. In reviewing compliance with Prohibitions A.1 and A.2 and Specification B.5, the Board will take special note of the difficulties which may be encountered in achieving compliance during entire wet seasons having a rainfall recurrence interval greater than once in ten years.
4. The discharger shall comply with the Self-Monitoring Program as ordered by the Executive Officer.
5. When an approved public sanitary sewer is within 400 ft. of the evaporation ponds, the discharger shall submit a technical report to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer and time schedule describing how the ponds will be abandoned and connection made to the sanitary sewer.
6. In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the dischargers, the dischargers shall notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order by letter, a copy of which shall be forwarded to this Board.
7. The discharger shall file with the Board a report of waste discharge at least 120 days before making any material change or proposed change in the character, location or volume of the discharge.
8. The Dischargers shall permit the Board or its authorized representative in accordance with California Water Code Section 13267 (c):
  - a. Entry upon premises in which an effluent source is located or in which any required records are kept.
  - b. Access to copy any records required to be kept under terms and conditons of this Order.
  - c. Inspection of any monitoring equipment or method required by this Order.
  - d. Sampling of any stored or disposed wastewater.
9. The Board will review this Order periodically and may revise the requirements when necessary.
10. Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 82-006 is hereby rescinded.

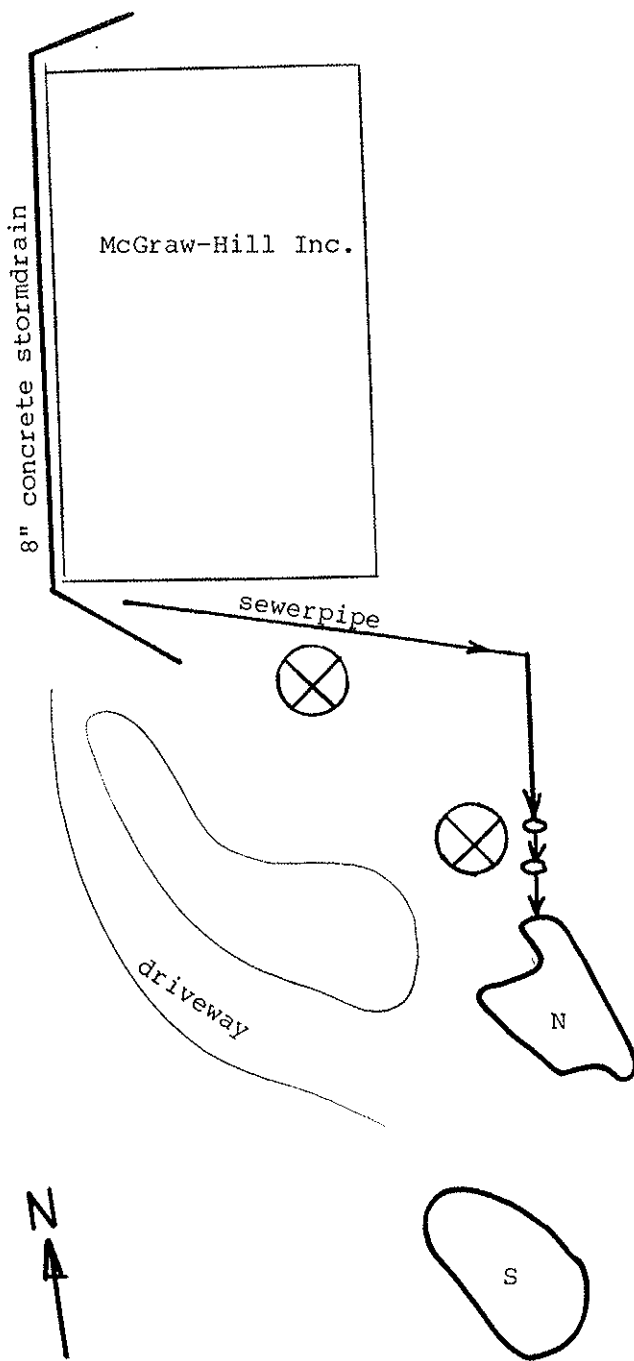
I, Roger B. James, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region on July 18, 1984.

ROGER B. JAMES  
Executive Officer

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DATED

Attachment: Maps  
Self-Monitoring Program



private road

Route 101

S & N are south and north ponds

○ ○ are chemical holding tanks

⊗ location of submersible pump to remove stormwater from underground drainage

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ATTACHMENT A

McGraw-Hill Inc. approximate location, layout of waste treatment and disposal ponds

DRAWN BY: BJS DATE: 5/7/84 DRWG. NO. 1

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

T E N T A T I V E  
SELF-MONITORING PROGRAM  
FOR

McGraw Hill, Incorporated

Novato

Marin County

ORDER NO. 84-42

CONSISTS OF

PART A

## PART A

### I. GENERAL

Reporting responsibilities of waste dischargers are specified in Sections 13225(a), 13267(b), 13268, 13383 and 13387(b) of the California Water Code and this Regional Board's Resolution No. 73-16.

The principal purposes of a monitoring program by a waste discharger, also referred to as a self-monitoring program, are:

1. To document compliance with waste discharge requirements and prohibitions established by this Regional Board.
2. To facilitate self-policing by the waste discharger in the prevention and abatement of pollution arising from waste discharge.

### II. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLING STATIONS AND SCHEDULE OF SAMPLING, ANALYSIS AND OBSERVATIONS

#### A. Influent to Pond

Monthly, determine average daily flow in gallons per day.

#### 2. Evaporation Ponds

At any point on the surface of each pond, representative of the wastewater:

1. Weekly, determine dissolved oxygen (D.O.) concentration, mg/l.
2. Weekly, determine pH.
3. Weekly, perform standard observations along perimeter of each pond:
  - a. Evidence of leaching liquid from area of confinement and estimated size of affected area. (Show affected area on a sketch).
  - b. Odor: presence or absence, characterization, source and distance of travel.
  - c. Estimated number of waterfowl and other water associated bird in the disposal area and vicinity.
  - d. Determine freeboard, in feet, for each pond.

### III. REPORTS TO BE FILED WITH THE REGIONAL BOARD

#### 1. Violations of Requirements

In the event the discharger is unable to comply with the conditions of the waste discharge requirements and prohibitions due to:

- (a) maintenance work, power failures, or breakdown of waste treatment equipment, or
- (b) accidents caused by human error or negligence, or
- (c) other causes such as acts of nature,

the discharger shall notify the Regional Board Office by telephone as soon as he or his agents have knowledge of the incident and confirm this notification in writing within two weeks of the telephone notification. The written report shall include pertinent information explaining reasons for the non-compliance and shall indicate what steps were taken to prevent the problem from recurring.

In addition, if the non-compliance caused by items (a), (b) or (c), above is with respect to any of the effluent limits, the waste discharger shall promptly accelerate his monitoring program to analyze the discharge at least once every day for those constituents which have been violated. Such daily analyses shall continue until such time as the effluent limits have been attained, or until such time as the Executive Officer determines to be appropriate. The results of such monitoring shall be included in the regular Self-Monitoring Reports.

2. Bypass Reports:

Bypass reporting shall be an integral part of regular monitoring program reporting and a report on bypassing of untreated waste or bypassing of any treatment unit(s) shall be made which will include cause, time and date, duration and estimated volume of waste bypassed, method used in estimating volume, and persons notified, for planned and/or unplanned bypasses. Notification to the Regional Board shall be made immediately by phone, followed by written correspondence within 15 days if a bypass occurs.

The discharger shall file a written technical report at least 15 days prior to advertising for bid on any construction project which would cause or aggravate the discharge of waste in violation of requirements; said report shall describe the nature, costs, and scheduling of all action necessary to preclude such discharge. In no case should any discharge of sewage-bearing wastes be permitted without at least primary treatment and chlorination.

3. Self-Monitoring Reports

Written reports shall be filed regularly for each calendar quarter and submitted by the fifteenth day of the following month. The reports shall be comprised of the following:

a. Letter of Transmittal

A letter transmitting self-monitoring reports should accompany each report. Such a letter shall include a discussion of requirement violations found during the past months and actions taken or planned for correcting violations, such as plant operation modifications and/or plant facilities expansion. If the discharger has



previously submitted a detailed time schedule for correcting requirement violations, a reference to the correspondence transmitting such schedule will be satisfactory. Monitoring reports and the letter transmitting reports shall be signed either by a principal executive officer, ranking elected official, or other duly authorized employee. The letter shall contain a statement by the official, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of the signer's knowledge the report is true and correct.

b. Data Results

All results observed or analyzed in II.A. and II.B.

c. Flow Data - Plant Capacity

1. Listing of the dates and the magnitudes of the influent flows which exceeds 75% of the design capacity of the treatment and/or disposal facilities.

I, Roger B. James, Executive Officer, hereby certify that the foregoing Self-Monitoring Program:

1. Has been developed in accordance with the procedure set forth in this Regional Board's Resolution No. 73-16 in order to obtain data and document compliance with waste discharge requirements established in Regional Board Order No. 84-42.
2. Is effective on the date shown below.
3. May be reviewed at any time subsequent to the effective date upon written notice from the Executive Officer or request from the discharger, and revisions will be ordered by the Executive Officer.

ROGER B. JAMES  
Executive Officer

Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_